

SEVERE LOCAL STORMS FOR AUGUST 1945

[Compiled by MARY O. SOUDER]

[The table herewith contains such data as has been received concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A revised list of tornadoes will appear in the UNITED STATES METEOROLOGICAL YEARBOOK]

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
Columbia, S. C., vicinity of.	August 2	5 p. m.			\$1,000	Electrical	Portion of house demolished after being struck by lightning; 2 persons injured.
Madison County, N. Y.	2					Thunderstorm, high winds, and hail.	Unestimated damage reported south of Oneida Lake in Madison County. Small boats were blown 20 feet inland, fallen trees blocked highways, and power and communication lines were disrupted. Hail swept an area 4 miles wide and 10 miles long, beating down crops and damaging windows and roofs. Some measured hailstones were 8 inches in circumference.
Clinton and Gordon, Nebr., and vicinities.	3	8:45-9:30 p. m., M. W. T.	16		335,000	Tornadoic wind, hail, and rain.	Property destroyed, about \$135,000, over a path 35 miles long. Loss in crops from hail over a path 3 miles wide and 6 miles long, \$200,000.
Cherokee and Ida Counties, Iowa.	4				30,000	Heavy rain.	In Cherokee County 26 road bridges were washed away and some sections of railroad tracks washed out. Little Sioux and Maple Rivers, as well as many smaller streams, overflowed. Loss to shocked oats from flooding in Ida Grove, Iowa. No reliable estimate of total damage available.
Milwaukee Harbor, Wis.	5	a. m.		1		Wind	Many sailing boats gathered for a regatta were loosened from their moorings. Only minor damage reported. Man drowned in afternoon when wind overturned his motorboat.
Grand Island, Nebr.	5	a. m.				Thunderstorm and heavy wind.	Considerable damage from lightning; streets flooded.
Owens Valley, Calif.	5	2:30 p. m.			5,000	Heavy rain	Storm occurred in scattered portion of the Inyo's-Mono area, with the Darwin-Keeler area reported to have had heaviest damage. Disaster struck Keeler, one of southern Inyos oldest communities when torrents of floodwaters, originating from a cloudburst in Cerro Gordo Canyon area, rushed through the entire town, causing heavy destruction and damage to homes, business houses, the main highway, streets, and the railroad. Loaded ore cars south of the old Cerro Gordo mill were turned over on the tracks and torn from the wheels. Gullies 4 feet deep were cut under the railroad tracks in this section, suspending them in the air. Southern Pacific narrow gage service at Keeler was suspended when tons of mud and gravel to the depth of 2 feet were deposited on the roadbed for a distance extending nearly a half mile in Keeler. Monday an emergency crew of 200 men arrived to clear the debris, and a train was dispatched late that night. An official of the California Electric Power Co. and Interstate Telegraph Co. reported intermittent trouble, for the most part the result of lightning striking lines.
New Jersey, southern portion.	6-7					Torrential rain and wind.	Reported that men were blown 100 yards and barns blown a mile; houses blown against uprooted trees, and attic windows sucked out. Much property damaged and several persons injured.
Chouteau County, Mont., from Carter to southeast corner of the county.	11				1,000,000	Hail	The stones, ranging in size from peas to hen eggs, destroyed all grains, damaged roofs and farm equipment, broke windows, and killed poultry and small animals.
Abbyville, Kans., 6 miles north.	13	4:45 p. m.	880		10,000	High wind	Buildings and trees damaged; path 3/4 miles long.
Kossuth County, Iowa.	13	8 p. m.			7,500	Heavy rain	Several sections of roads washed out in the Algona-Irvington area. In Algona and vicinity there was \$5,000 damage to buildings, \$2,000 loss in crops, and \$300 to livestock.
Marshalltown, Iowa, vicinity of.	13	Near midnight				Thunderstorm	Trees broken and uprooted; about 100 electric poles down, and telephone and electric service disrupted. Eight miles southwest of Marshalltown a barn was struck by lightning and burned.
Belle Plaine, Iowa.	13-14				5,000	Electrical	Barn struck by lightning and burned.
Clinton, Iowa, and vicinities.	13-14					Rain and wind	About 4 inches of rain fell in less than 3 hours, flooding streets and basements as sewers were overtaxed. Numerous creeks overflowed carrying trees, stumps, fences, hog troughs, etc. Much damage was caused to the footings and approaches of the new Mill Creek bridge, and 2 bridges in the city were washed out. Many houses in the lowlands flooded, subways blocked to traffic because of water, and many sections of pavement washed out. Tangible property destroyed or damaged and the cost of cleaning up mud, sand, etc., was \$522,000 mostly in the city of Clinton. Field and garden crop loss, \$13,000; livestock and movable equipment, \$500.
Sidney, Nebr., vicinity of.	14	6 a. m.			30,000	Windsquall	Several buildings destroyed or damaged.
Greene County, Pa.	14	P. m.	50	0		Tornado	Between 15 and 20 barns blown down and roofs taken off several homes. Several large trees uprooted.
Robeline, La.	16	7 p. m.				Wind	2 barns destroyed, a garage damaged, and some timber uprooted; no estimate of damage received.
Howard County, Nebr., western portion.	16	p. m., C. W. T.	11-5		44,500	Heavy hail	Loss chiefly to corn and small grain; path 24 miles long.
Adams and Webster Counties, Nebr.	16	9-9:30 p. m., C. W. T.	18-10		20,000	Hail	Damage of from 50 to 75 percent on some farms. In Webster County loss in corn crop was \$20,000; some property damaged; path 50 miles long.
Burr Oak to Randall, Kans., and vicinities.	16	10-11 p. m.	12 1/2		110,000	do	Principal storm path west of Mankato and Jewell. Much loss in corn crop and gardens and extensive damage to roofs and windows. Path 30 miles long.
Haven, Kans., 4 miles north.	17	12:30 a. m.	11	0	6,000	Small tornado	Buildings and trees damaged, \$5,000; loss in crops, \$1,000; path 3 miles long.
Grant County, Okla.	17	3-5 a. m.			50,000	Straight-line wind	Storm started in Harper County, Kans., and extended over a path 40 miles long through Grant County, Okla. Property damage, \$35,000; crop loss, \$15,000.
Hartington and Coleridge, Nebr.	17	4 a. m., C. W. T.	16		20,000	Hail	Damage mainly to corn and grain, but some glass and roofs damaged; path 12 miles long.
Salt Lake City Airport and Salt Lake City, Utah, and vicinities.	19				500,000	Hail, wind, and rain	In addition a cloudburst occurred in the hills north of the city; property damaged.
Weyerhaeuser, Holcombe, and Stanley to extreme northwestern Clark County, Wis., and vicinities.	24	2:30-5 p. m., C. W. T.	12-5		88,000	Hail and wind	An incredible amount of hail fell, some of it being the size of hen eggs. Hailstones were from 12 to 18 inches deep in some yards and from 6 to 8 inches deep in other places and on Highway No. 40. Loss in wheat and corn and other garden crops and in cranberries. Greatest single loss estimated at \$15,000 to cranberry vines and fruit in an 8-acre marsh. Many windows on north and west sides of farmhouses broken; roofs and automobiles damaged, and some poultry killed. Wind during this storm damaged few farmhouses and 10 or more barns and blew down 2 barns and several smaller farm buildings. One person was injured. Crop loss, \$75,000; property damage, \$13,000; path 45 miles long.

SEVERE LOCAL STORMS FOR AUGUST 1945—Continued

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
	August 1945						
Dolliva to Westly, Iowa, and vicinities.	24					Rain and wind.....	Loss in corn from 10 to 80 percent, also in soy beans, flax, and gardens. No estimate of total loss available, but said to be heavy.
Zion National Park, Utah..	25				\$5,000	Cloudburst, hail and wind.	Damage to buildings and roads.
Corpus Christi, Tex., and vicinity.	26	P.m.				Tropical hurricane..	The center of the disturbance was 30 miles east of Corpus Christi, but wind already had reached a peak velocity of 101 miles per hour at the Naval Air Training Center just 10 miles to the south. Winds of 70 miles per hour or more extended outward as far as 50 miles to the east and north of the center, with winds up to 110 miles an hour over a small area. Estimate of loss not given.
Gage and Jefferson Counties, Nebr.	28	8-9 p. m., C. W. T.	11-1		30,000	Light to heavy hail..	Damage spotted, path 25 miles long.
Houston, Tex.....	28	11:20 p. m.	75	1	35,000	Tornado.....	This tornado occurred at the time that the hurricane was centered in the area about 60 miles southwest of Houston and about the time that the maximum wind occurred at the city office.
Menomonie, Wis., vicinity of.	29	7-7:30 p. m., C. W. T.	1 1/2-3			Hail.....	As much as 85 percent crop loss including tobacco and corn; property damage small; path 25 miles long.
Swea City, Iowa, 2 miles south.	29		50-440	0		Tornadic wind.....	Loss in corn and soybeans; path 2 miles long.
Cass County, Ind.....	30	8:30 p. m.	12		50,000	Wind and hail.....	Property damage, \$30,000; loss in crops, \$20,000.
Frederick and Clarke Counties, Va.	30	9:30-11 p. m.	17		121,000	Hail, wind, electrical.	Loss chiefly to apples and corn, about \$110,000; property damage, \$5,000; property and livestock destroyed by lightning, \$6,000.
La Porte to Michigan City, Ind.	30				5,000	Hail.....	Some stones size of hen eggs.
Peru, Ind.....	31				50,000	Electrical.....	Ordnance plant struck by lightning and burned.

¹ Miles instead of yards.

NOTE.—Corrections on this table for June 1945; page 109, last storm listed for 23d:

"West Virginia, north and north-central portions, etc.," should be deleted since this storm was printed in June 1944. Page 110: Hooppole, Ill., on the 27th; last sentence under Remarks, should read, "46 persons were injured," instead of killed.